

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2575

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, DR

SUBJECT: DEPT OF JUSTICE INQUIRY CONCERNING GULF & WESTERN

REF: STATE 280910, DEC. 24, 1974

1. EMBASSY HAS LOOKED INTO WAYNE FULLER ALLEGATIONS THAT GULF & WESTERN CORPORATION HAS INTERFERED WITH HIS TOURIST DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. INQUIRY WITH MR. ALVARO CARTA, CHAIRMAN OF GULF & WESTERN AMERICAS, DOM REP BROUGHT STRONG DENIALS. CARTA ASSERTED THAT HE HAD PERSONALWFTFSSITE RCULLER IN ACQUIRING FULLER'S PRESENT LAND HOLDINGS AND HAD ASSISTED HIM WITH GWA TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW. HOWEVER, CARTA CONTINUED, FULLER KEPT PUSHING FOR MORE ASSISTANCE TO THE POINT THAT HE BECAME A NUISANCE AND THE GWA-FULLER RELATIONSHIP COOLED. AT THIS POINT, CARTA CONCLUDED, GWA HAS NO INTEREST ONE WAY OR THE OTHER REGARDING THE FUTURE OF FULLER'S VENTURE.

2. INTERVIEW WITH MR. PEDRO MORALES TRONCOSO, HEAD OF TOURISM HERE, REVEALED THAT THE THREE PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR DELAY IN ISSUING FULLER THE LICENSE HE HAS REQUESTED ARE (1) SOME DOUBT OVER FULLER'S FINANCIAL BONA FIDES, (2) FULLER'S FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LICENSE, AND (3) MORALES' NEWNESS TO HIS POSITION (HE WAS APPOINTED LAST AUGUST 28), MORALES SAID THAT THESE THREE POINTS HAD NOW BEEN SUFFICIENTLY RESOLVED SO THAT FULLER WILL RECEIVE HIS LICENSE TO IMPORT DUTY-FREE THE ITEMS HE NEEDS TO CONSTRUCT HIS TOURISM PROJECT.

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THE LICENSE, ACCORDING TO MORALES, WILL BE FOR A SIX-MONTH

PERIOD DURING WHICH FULLER WILL HAVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT HE HAS OBTAINED THE FINANCING NECESSARY FOR THE PROJECT (FULLER HAS TOLD US THAT HE HAS NOT YET OBTAINED THE FINANCING; WE ARE INFORMED THAT HE HAS BEEN TURNED DOWN BY THREE LOCAL BANKS, INCLUDING CHASE MANHATTAN). MORALES CONCLUDED THAT IF FULLER IS UNABLE TO OBTAIN HIS FINANCING WITHIN SIX MONTHS, THE TOURIST BOARD WOULD CONSIDER AN EXTENSION IF FULLER COULD DEMONSTRATE GOOD FAITH EFFORTS AND THAT PROSPECTS FOR FINANCING WERE GOOD.

3. ALTHOUGH IT IS TRUE THAT PEDRO MORALES TRONCOSO AND CARLOS MORALES TRONCOSO, VERY RECENTLY PROMOTED TO THE POSIOJON OF PRESIDENT OF GWA, ARE BROTHERS, AND BOTH ARE RELATED TO DOMREP VICE PRESIDENT GOICO MORALES, WE KNOW OF NO EVIDENCE THAT THESE RELATIONSHIPS HAVE WORKED TO FULLER'S DISADVANTAGE. IN FACT, PRESIDENT BALAGUER APPEARS TO HAVE CONSISTENTLY FAVORED FULLER'S PROJECT.

4. TWO IMPORTANT MEMBERS OF FULLER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, U.S. CITIZEN WILLIAM ROOD, AND CARLOS ALBERTO RICART, OWNER OF THE INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER LISTIN DIARIO, HAVE RESIGNED REPORTEDLY DISILLUSIONED BY FULLER AND HIS TACTICS.
HURWITCH

NOTE BY OC/T: TEXT AS RECEIVED.

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